

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Withdrawn-Currently amended): A vaccine composition which comprises: an immunogenically active component ~~selected from the group consisting of~~ comprising inactivated or killed whole or subunit *E. coli* O157:H7, or ~~mixtures~~ a mixture thereof; a metabolizable oil adjuvant; and optionally a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

Claim 2 (Withdrawn): The composition according to claim 1 wherein the immunogenically active component is an inactivated whole or subunit *E. coli* O157:H7.

Claim 3 (Withdrawn): The composition according to claim 2 wherein the
/ immunogenically active component is an inactivated whole *E. coli* O157:H7.

Claim 4 (Withdrawn): The composition according to claim 2 wherein the immunogenically active component is subunit *E. coli* O157:H7.

Claim 5 (Withdrawn): The composition according to claim 3 wherein the adjuvant comprises 0.1 to 50% vol/vol of the vaccine composition.

Claim 6 (Withdrawn): The composition according to claim 4 wherein the adjuvant comprises 0.1 to 50% vol/vol of the vaccine composition.

Claim 7 (Withdrawn): The composition according to claim 5 wherein the adjuvant comprises a metabolizable oil and aluminum hydroxide gel.

Claim 8 (Withdrawn): The composition according to claim 6 wherein the adjuvant comprises a metabolizable oil and aluminum hydroxide gel.

Claim 9 (Withdrawn): The composition according to claim 5 wherein the adjuvant comprises from 1 to 50% vol/vol of metabolizable oil.

Claim 10 (Withdrawn): The composition according to claim 6 wherein the adjuvant comprises from 1 to 50% vol/vol of metabolizable oil.

Claim 11 (Withdrawn): The composition according to claim 5 wherein the metabolizable oil is squalane.

Claim 12 (Withdrawn): The composition according to claim 6 wherein the metabolizable oil is squalane.

Claim 13 (Withdrawn): The composition according to claim 5 wherein the adjuvant further comprises one or more wetting agents and/or dispersing agents in an amount of from about 0.1 to 25% vol/vol of the adjuvant.

Claim 14 (Withdrawn): The composition according to claim 6 wherein the adjuvant further comprises one or more wetting agents and/or dispersing agents in an amount of from about 0.1 to 25% vol/vol of the adjuvant.

Claim 15 (Withdrawn): The composition of claim 13, wherein said wetting or dispersing agents are selected from the group consisting of non-ionic surfactants.

Claim 16 (Withdrawn): The composition of claim 14, wherein said wetting or dispersing agents are selected from the group consisting of non-ionic surfactants.

Claim 17 (Withdrawn-Currently amended): The composition of claim ~~[[17]]~~ 15, wherein said non-ionic surfactants are selected from the group consisting of polyoxyethylene/polyoxypropylene block copolymers and polyoxyethylene esters.

Claim 18 (Withdrawn-Currently amended): The composition of claim [[18]] 16, wherein said non-ionic surfactants are selected from the group consisting of polyoxyethylene/polyoxypropylene block copolymers and polyoxyethylene esters.

Claim 19 (Withdrawn): The composition according to claim 17 wherein said immunogenically active component is present in sufficient quantity to provide at least 1×10^9 cells per unit dose.

Claim 20 (Original): A method for reducing shedding of *E. coli* O157 in an animal which comprises treatment of the animal with a composition according to claim 1.

Claim 21 (Currently amended): ~~A~~ ~~The method~~ according to claim 20 which further comprises treatment of the animal with a Lactobacillus ~~acidophilis~~ ~~acidophilus~~ or ~~neomycin~~ ~~neomycin~~ medicated feed supplement.